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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/642,453	08/15/2003	Stefan Wolf	Harman.5848CON	1599
50811	7590	10/31/2007	EXAMINER	
O'SHEA, GETZ & KOSAKOWSKI, P.C.			TO, TUAN C	
1500 MAIN ST.			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
SUITE 912			3663	
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01115				
MAIL DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
10/31/2007		PAPER		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/642,453	WOLF ET AL.	
	Examiner Tuan C. To	Art Unit 3663	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 August 2007.
- 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 10 and 17 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-9, 11-16 and 18-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 15 August 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

After reconsidering the application and the rejection with special attention, the examiner is unable to withdraw the rejection of the claims as said in the interview dated 07/10/2007. The cited reference to Tanihira et al. identically discloses each and every limitations of the claims. Any inconvenience to applicant is regretted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.
- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- (e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

Claims 1-9, 11-16, and 18-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Tanihira et al. (US 5574514A).

Regarding claims 1, 6, 13, and 21, Tanihira et al. teaches a vehicle multimedia system/method of data exchange including an interface and a plurality of multimedia units each connected to a data bus in the vehicle comprising: establishing a radio connection between the interface unit and an external unit; coordinating/arbitrating at the interface unit requests for radio connection to the external unit. In Tanihira et al., the commander (11) is the user interface unit, a plurality of multimedia units such as TV tuner (41), navigation unit (43), CD player (33), etc. are connected to the data bus (71)

(Tanihira et al, figure 2). Tanihira et al. does not mention a radio connection between the remote controller (64) and the interface unit (11) as shown in figure 2, however, a radio connection would be existed when the remote controller (64) is operated (Tanihira et al., figure 2).

While patent drawings are not drawn to scale, relationships clearly shown in the drawings of a reference patent cannot be disregarded in determining the patentability of claims. See In re Mraz, 59 CCPA 866, 455 F.2d 1069, 173 USPQ 25 (1972).

As to claim 2, Tanihira et al. further teaches transmitting data/commands over the radio connection in both direction between the interface unit (11) and the external unit (64) (Tanihira et al., figure 2).

As to claim 3, Tanihira et al. teaches that the data is received at the interface unit via the radio connection when a communication is established between the remote controller (64) and the interface unit (11), the interface unit then sends the data to said multimedia unit via the bus (71) (Tanihira et al., figure 2).

As to claims 4, 5, and 22, Tanihira et al. also teaches “determining a sequence for processing simultaneously received requests (Tanihira et al., column 10, lines 41-47).

As to claim 7, Tanihira et al. teaches that the interface unit (11), as shown in figure 2, located at an arbitrary location along the data bus (71).

As to claim 8, the interface unit receives the data from the remote controller (64) and sends the data over the data bus (71) to the multimedia units such as TV tuner (41), navigation unit (43), CD player (33), etc.

As to claims 9, 14, and 16, the interface unit (11) is a command unit, which situated in the data bus (71), said the interface unit acts as an operation unit.

As to claims 11, 12, and 23, the interface unit (11), as illustrated by Tanihira et al, is formed by a plurality unit including means for receiving a request from at least one multimedia unit, for processing the received request, and for communicating with the external unit (64).

As to claim 15, Tanihira et al. further discloses that the interface unit comprises a coordination unit configured to perform the coordination of the requests for radio connection to the external unit, which receives from the multimedia units (see column 6, lines 36-54, the commander 11 sends a predetermined command to the communication lines 71 based on a command from the remote controller 64).

As to claims 18, and 19, the commander 11 or 12 receives the signal from the remote controller (64) in response to a request, and sends a predetermined command to the communication lines 71.

Response to applicant's arguments

In response to the applicant's remarks filed on 8/8/2007, the double patenting rejection has been withdrawn.

The applicant traverses the rejection of independent claims 1, 6, 13, and 21 because, according to the applicant, the cited reference to Tanihira fails to disclose the limitations "establishing a radio connection between the interface unit and external unit; receiving from the multimedia units requests for the radio connection with the external

unit; and coordinating/arbitrating at the interface unit requests for radio connection to the external unit".

The examiner believes the cited to Tanihira et al. identically discloses such the claimed features.

Tanihira teaches a vehicle multimedia system/method, in which a plurality of multimedia devices, either audio/video devices, are connected to a bus (abstract).

At first, Tanihira teaches the commander (11) receives the remote control signal from the remote controller (64) via the remote control light receiving unit (11e). This shows a radio connection is established between the remote controller (64) and the commander (11).

Secondly, Tanihira discloses that a radio connection with the remote controller (64) is established when the remote request received at the commander (11) (see figure 6). As set forth in column 6, lines 43-47, upon receiving the remote control signal, the commander (11) sends a predetermined command to the communication lines 71, and controls the operation of either audio or video source signal. Thus, Tanihira et al. discloses the limitation "receiving from the multimedia units request for the radio connection with the external unit".

At last, as summarized in the abstract, each audio/video device is provided with a predetermined priority value which is stored in a memory. Upon power up, every device transmits a communication frame including its own address and its priority value on the bus. When two or more common-type devices (i.e, having a common address) are connected to the bus, conflict is avoided by disabling the device or devices having lower

priority values. Therefore, Tanihira et al. discloses a system/method for coordinating/arbitrating operation of large amount of data without a conflict. In addition, as shown in figure 6, and the associated text in column 7, lines 25-45, the commander (11) includes the remote control light receiving unit (11e) for receiving the remote control signal from the remote controller (64), the controller (11a) receives data addresses to it from the bus (71) as well as creates data corresponding to key operation and remote control operation. This shows the source of video or audio signal is control to switch by the command received from the remote controller (64). Thus, Tanihira also discloses the act of coordinating/arbitrary is done at the commander (11), which serves as an interface unit.

For that reasons, the application cannot be patentable over the cited prior art.

Conclusions

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

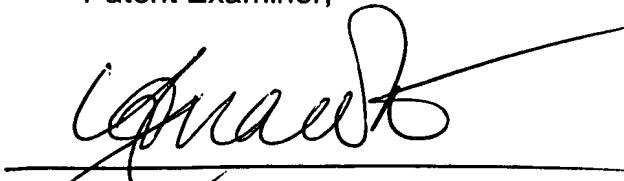
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan C To whose telephone number is (571) 272-6985. The examiner can normally be reached on from 8:00AM to 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Patent Examiner,



Tuan C To

October 19, 2007